I. AMENDMENTS

Please cancel claim 15 to 17, 19 to 21, and 27 to 29.

Please amend claims 1, 9, 13, 18, 22, 26, 30 and 32 to read as follows:

1. (Thrice amended) A method of treating a malignant cell proliferative disorder associated with decreased transcription of a 5'ALT polynucleotide comprising exon 2 of a p15 gene, the method comprising administering locally at a site of cells having or suspected of having the disorder a polynucleotide comprising SEQ ID NO:1 operatively linked to a polynucleotide comprising exon 2 of the p15 gene, whereby expression of said polynucleotide restores transcription of the 5'ALT polynucleotide, thereby treating the malignant cell proliferative disorder.

9. (Thrice amended) A method of treating a subject having a malignant cell proliferative disorder associated with decreased p16 expression due to methylation of a CpG island of a p16 gene in a cell, the method comprising administering locally at a site of malignant cells exhibiting decreased p16 expression in a subject with the disorder, a therapeutically effective amount of a polynucleotide comprising SEQ ID NO:1 operatively linked to exons 2 and 3 of the p16 gene, whereby expression of the polynucleotide in the malignant cells in the subject is restored, thereby treating the subject.

13. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the polynucleotide comprising SEQ ID NO:1 operatively linked to a polynucleotide comprising exon 2 of the p15 gene further comprises a colloidal dispersion system.

18. (Amended) A method of suppressing proliferation of malignant cells characterized by decreased expression of a polynucleotide encoding a 5'ALT-p16^{INK4A} polypeptide, wherein said 5'ALT-p16^{INK4A} polypeptide has tumor suppressor activity, the method comprising administering locally at a site of the malignant cells a polynucleotide encoding a 5'ALT-p16^{INK4A} polypeptide, said polynucleotide comprising SEQ ID NO:1 operatively linked to exons 2 and 3 of a p16 gene, wherein expression of the 5'ALT-p16^{INK4A} polypeptide suppresses proliferation of the malignant cells.

22. (Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein the polynucleotide encoding the 5'ALT-p16^{INK4A} polypeptide is contained in a vector.

24. (Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein the polynucleotide encoding the 5'ALT-p16^{INK4A} polypeptide comprises a colloidal dispersion system.

26. (Amended) A method of suppressing proliferation of malignant cells characterized by expression of a mutant 5'ALT-p16^{INK4A} polypeptide, wherein the mutant 5'ALT-p16^{INK4A} polypeptide has decreased tumor suppressor activity, the method comprising administering locally at a site of the malignant cells a polynucleotide encoding a 5'ALT-p16^{INK4A} polypeptide, said polynucleotide comprising SEQ ID NO:1 operatively linked to exons 2 and 3 of a p16 gene, wherein expression of the 5'ALT-p16^{INK4A} polypeptide suppresses proliferation of the malignant cells.

30. (Amended) The method of claim 26, wherein the polynucleotide encoding the 5'ALT-p16^{INK4A} polypeptide is contained in a vector.

32. (Amended) The method of claim 26, wherein the polynucleotide encoding the 5'ALT-p16^{INK4A} polypeptide comprises a colloidal dispersion system.

Please add the following new claims:

--34. A method of treating a malignant cell proliferative disorder associated with decreased transcription of a 5'ALT polynucleotide comprising exons 2 and 3 of a p16 gene, the method comprising administering locally at a site of cells having or suspected of having the disorder a polynucleotide comprising SEQ ID NO:1 operatively linked to a polynucleotide comprising exons 2 and 3 of the p16 gene, whereby expression of said polynucleotide restores transcription of the 5'ALT polynucleotide, thereby treating the malignant cell proliferative disorder.

35. The method of claim 34, wherein the decreased transcription is due to methylation of a CpG island of a p16 gene in the cell.

36. The method of claim 34, wherein the malignant cell proliferative disorder is non-small cell lung cancer, small cell lung cancer, head neck squamous cell carcinoma, malignant astrocytoma, breast cancer, prostate cancer, colon cancer, colon adenoma, or renal cancer.--